

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-11. (canceled).

12. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ An axial bearing (11) for a banding roll (20) of a banding machine (10) with a shaft (62) which is rigidly attached to a machine frame (16) or chassis, and a rear cover plate (68) which is also rigidly attached, a hub (64) which is freely rotatable on the shaft (62) and a flange (74) which is arranged on ~~the~~ a free face (96) of the shaft (62) with a front cover plate (18), wherein in the area of the flange (74) at least one bolt (84) protrudes radially from the shaft (62) and engages without protrusion in a guide slot (78) of a bayonet socket (76) which is detachably connected with the flange (74), ~~which~~ wherein the guide slot (78) is open at its inner face and transforms rising into a curved apex (118), turns at a spacing ~~a~~ from the inner face (80) of the bayonet socket (76) and runs ending blind in the direction of the inner face (80) of the bayonet socket, a compression spring (88) is arranged clamped between a shaft holder (90) and the hub (64) on the shaft (62) and presses a roll core (70) with the banding roll (20) over the hub (64) in the axial direction onto the flange (74) and together with this forms a fast closure with the centred banding roll (20), where ~~the~~ a spacing (a) corresponds to the spacing of the roll core (70) of the banding roll (20), inserted and not yet pressed on, from the rear cover plate (68).

13. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein two diagonally opposing bolts (84) protrude from the shaft (62) into the guide ~~slot~~ slots (78).
14. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 13, wherein the guide slots (78) for the bolts (84) run with preferably linear or degressive gradient, transform into a circular arc with ~~an~~ each of the curved apex (118) and fall preferably linearly.
15. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein the gradient of the guide slot (78) has an angle  $\alpha$  of 30 to 60°.
16. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein the guide slot (78) after the apex has an end position with a spacing of (0.3 to 0.7) from the inner face (80) of the bayonet socket (76).
17. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 16, wherein the guide slots have a catch after reaching the end position.
18. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein a spacing (t) of a face (124) of the bayonet socket (76) from a free face (122) of the flange (74) is adjustable according to the width (b) of the banding roll (22).
19. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 18, wherein arranged in an axial bore (120) starting from ~~a~~ the free face (96) of the shaft (62) is arranged a

compression spring (100) and a longitudinally displaceable pressure pad (98), where the position of the pressure pad (98) and the associated bayonet socket (76) is adjustable with a bolt (102).

20. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein the roll core (70) lies with play on the hub (64) and is centred with spring clamps (94).
21. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein the flange (74) in the area of the inserted roll core (70) has a ring stop (92) which ~~preferably~~ has an inner glide face.
22. (currently amended) ~~Axial~~ The axial bearing (11) according to claim 12, wherein outside the roll core (70) and extending in the radial direction is arranged a brass brush (114) as an earth contact, the surface of which can be recessed via a spacer (116).